

LAMBDA

Carolina Gay Association Newsletter

Volume 10, Number 2

November/December 1983

UNC-CH Refuses Scholarship for Gay Medical Students

Dr. Robert Ragland, a Florida psychiatrist who had a fellowship and was an instructor at UNC-CH from 1959-63, has offered \$500 to Duke University or the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a scholarship for a medical student "who has already openly and publicly made manifest a same gender affinity preference." Both universities have refused his offer.

Dr. Ragland first made the offer to Duke in December 1982, but it was declined after "cordial" correspondence. He initially wrote the President Terry Sanford who released his letter to the Dean of the Medical School and to others, including the student publication and the Duke Gay and Lesbian Alliance. A dialogue ensued between Sanford and Dr. Ragland, and the administration and the Alliance. The end result was that the administration accepted an alternative scholarship proposal worked out between the Alliance and themselves which is funded by people in the area in an amount several times that which Ragland offered.

When Duke declined the scholarship, they wrote, "It [the scholarship] has produced substantially increased respect

and understanding on both sides [administration and the gay community]. So you see, a gift can be a gift in many ways—even if the money doesn't actually change hands. I hope the collateral outcome pleases you as it does me. In the meantime, please accept my thanks for your thoughtfulness and consideration throughout our discussions."

The offer was then made to Dean Bondurant of the UNC School of Medicine on Feb. 28, 1983. At that time the scholarship stipulated that the recipient be male. Dean Bondurant returned Ragland's check with the objection that the scholarship was restricted to males.

Ragland in turn opened the scholarship to women but explained in a later letter to UNC President William Friday, "The original offer was meant to discriminate between men and women but not to discriminate against women.... The condition I was trying to correct was the enforced secrecy imposed upon certain segments of our society.... The requirement of secrecy is much more severely enforced against men as compared to women. The benefit deriving from an abrogation of this requirement is greater the more (see SCHOLARSHIP on page 2)

Duke Student Government Revokes DGLA Charter

The article began, "Item: In Durham, Duke University Medical Center closes its AIDS clinic, orders its student chapter of the GAA disbanded, and becomes the first institution of higher education in the country to require sexual preference information of all incoming male students."

This fictitious item, written by Jerry Douglas and published in the November issue of Stallion magazine, was the writer's "worst scenario" vision of social reaction to AIDS.

In what seems a case of deja vu, part of Douglas' scenario is near reality: the Duke Gay and Lesbian Alliance (DGLA) has lost its charter. On Oct. 6, the student

government president revoked the charter after being advised that it violates North Carolina law.

Student groups at Duke University must have their charters approved annually by the Associated Students of Duke University (ASDU) in order to be eligible for funding and use of university facilities and equipment. The Duke Gay Alliance was first chartered in 1971. Its charter, which has been approved by ASDU each of the past eleven years, provides that one purpose of the group is "promoting a social setting for gays and lesbians in the University community."

The group reorganized and was chartered (see DGLA on page 7)

(SCHOLARSHIP, continued from page 1)

stringent the requirement and therefore greater when it is a man who defies the societal requirement. Women will benefit by his action more than men will benefit from a woman taking this action."

Dean Bondurant again refused the offer and explained that, "The Medical Advisory Committee has decided as a matter of policy not to seek the information necessary to determine the qualified applicant pool." In a third letter he identified this information as the "expression of sexual preference which would be required as a condition of applying for or becoming eligible for the scholarship."

An Aug. 30, 1983 letter from Ragland to President Friday reviewed the history of the scholarship proposal and Ragland's motivations: "I agree that inquiries cannot be made into an individual's sexual preference, and I did not suggest or ask for any such inquiries. I went to some pains to avoid this by saying that no written or verbal statement is required and specified a student who has already openly and publicly made manifest a same gender affinity/preference.... I think it is extremely unfortunate that the right to privacy could be so construed as to abrogate a person's right to be open which seems to have happened in this case. The right of privacy certainly doesn't mean that one must be secret but rather it gives one a choice.... I doubt that the University is doing anything to deny anyone the right to be open, but is it doing anything to counter the societal pressures which do deny that right?"

Ragland added, "My offer is not to be construed as a homosexual scholarship or as an attempt to aid students with a same gender preference to get an education. They can do that as well as anybody else."

Ragland explained in detail why he was concerned with this problem of oppression: "I think the word educate comes from the Latin e-ducere, to lead out, to lead out of ignorance, and let me add, prejudice.... I want to call attention to a particular difficulty people with a same gender affinity have which adversely affects all segments of our society.... I want to help provide role models for like persons and to help lead the general public out of ignorance and prejudice. I want to make it easier for others to come out, and I want to help relieve all men and women of the anxiety and fear that are associated with this subject and these people. I want to help families with such a member to be whole, to be able to share their loves and sorrows which now separate them. This is a largely public health problem.... I believe that it is especially important that physicians be involved in this for they are teachers and examples for others. But physicians, like clergy and teachers, seem to be among the last to take this step."

At press time, no response has been made to Ragland's last letter. CGA asked President Friday's secretary about the situation and was referred to Dean of Student Affairs, Donald Boulton. He was not available for comment, but his secretary explained, "We are waiting for a response from Dr. Ragland."

Dr. Ragland says he welcomes any other suggestions for the use of this money that would fill his objectives. Ragland may be contacted at:

2783 Oak Street
Jacksonville, FL 32203

-Mark

World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations

"That night...there was a lovely Shabbat service. The degenderized liturgy...added, for many, to the joy and warmth of the service. When we faced Jerusalem there was a special sense of comradeship, as we sang and prayed with our Israeli sisters and brothers under the glory of a beautiful sunset on the shore of the Mediterranean."

So reads an account of the Fourth International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews, which took place in Tel Aviv in 1979. At a similar conference two years later in Philadelphia, the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations was born. Its bylaws include eight statements of "goals and objectives," and while the kind of spiritual togetherness described above is not officially listed therein, it is obviously an important aspect of the group.

The Congress is composed of 18 member groups, including one each in Canada, England, France and Israel. The goals of the Congress are to provide leadership for and solidarity among these groups, most of which are congregations, and to provide information to the public. Objectives include planning the International Conference, an annual event since 1976, and meeting a unique dual responsibility "to encourage outreach to both the Jewish and Gay/Lesbian Communities."

An objective with particular relevance to the Triangle area is to provide assistance in the formation of new groups. A personal letter to the members of the CGA by the Congress' Coordinating Secretary Lorry Sorgmyn offers help in setting up a member organization and/or worship services for Jews in Chapel Hill.

Lorry Sorgmyn's address is 44 Gartland Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 01130. Or write to:

World Congress
P.O. Box 1516
Evanston, IL 60204

-Marc

Health Project Update

Benefit nights at two local bars in October reportedly raised more than \$1,000 for the North Carolina Lesbian and Gay Health Project. The funds will be used for the Project's AIDS program to finance an informational brochure on AIDS and a touring community education program. The Project also plans to use the money to establish a support service for people with AIDS that would include counseling and housing and emergency financial assistance.

On Oct. 9, the Capitol Corral in Raleigh asked their patrons to contribute \$3 at the door, and Project staff collected \$372.

On Oct. 2, 42nd Street in Durham raised \$750 for the Project. Despite sparse publicity, approximately 350 people attended the event. One dollar of each admission was donated to the Health Project, and \$70 in extra donations at the door brought the total to \$420. In addition, bartenders and performers contributed their tips of \$330 to the Project.

The Health Project volunteer staff are already taking their AIDS community education program on the road. Presentations have already been made to CGA and to the Gay Men's Folk Dancing Group in Durham. Dates will be set soon for presentations to St. John's MCC in Raleigh and to the Gay Academic Union in Greensboro. Project volunteer staff hope to carry the program to interested groups across the state. If your group is interesting in hosting the program, please contact the Project at the address below.

The two-hour presentation is divided into two parts. The first consists of factual and theoretical information about AIDS and a discussion of the social and political issues the disease raises.

The second part is facilitated small group discussions of the impact AIDS and the fear of AIDS is having on our lives. Some of the presentations will be facilitated by a gay man with AIDS who has been very active with the Health Project.

The Project is also planning a general meeting in November for everyone who has ever expressed interest in their work. In addition to the AIDS program, volunteer staff are compiling the health survey forms distributed over the summer. They hope the November general meeting will be a time to match skills and the interests of people to carry on the present programs. They also hope to set up a physician referral service, initiate a newsletter, and expand fundraising.

The exact date for the general meeting was not set by press time. For this and other information, call David at 919-929-9769, or write:

NC Lesbian and Gay Health Project
P.O. Box 11013
Durham, NC 27703

-Lee Mullis

For Women and Their Friends

In addition to LAMBDA, SHE magazine by the Association for Women Students, the Triangle Area Gay Scientists newsletter, and THE FRONT PAGE, lesbians in the Triangle can turn to their own publication. THE NEWSLETTER specifically concerns itself with issues related to lesbianism and feminism.

Begun in September 1982, by a group of women who saw a need for rapid, efficient communication in the lesbian and feminist community, THE NEWSLETTER is now a monthly publication. Past editions have included original poetry and fiction, stories on health issues, Southern Women Outdoor, Triangle Area Lesbian Feminists' activities, money and women, editorials, and letters.

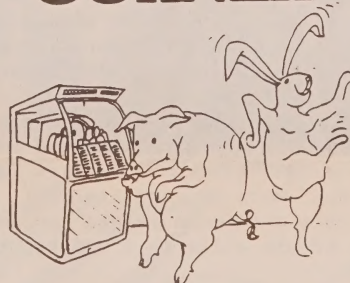
THE NEWSLETTER has approximately 200 subscribers in the Triangle Area. Subscription revenues pay most of the costs of publishing, although some support comes from advertising and from fundraising events held throughout the year. A volunteer staff produces THE NEWSLETTER and its mid-month companion calendar, "Around our Triangle." The staff welcomes almost any type of contribution and does not practice censorship.

Gay men, as well as lesbians and feminists, will find THE NEWSLETTER interesting. A LAMBDA friend donated a subscription to us, which is available in the CGA office. Or, for subscription information, write:

THE NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 2272
Durham, NC 27702

-Ron

CROOK'S CORNER



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Working Together: CGA and AWS

It is no secret that most gay men and feminists do not always see eye to eye. The feminist's objection to pornography is viewed as an attack upon inalienable rights while some feminists accuse the gay community of being less than sympathetic to their concerns. Even so, it would seem profitable for the members of the CGA and the Association for Women Students (AWS) to pool their forces in order to conserve energy and better protect the existence of both organizations.

The two groups, however, have not worked together closely in the past few years. Almost all of the politically active lesbians have been members of AWS rather than CGA.

There has been some cooperation between the two groups. In past years AWS members have showed support for CGA by attending hearings of the Campus Governing Council finance committee while CGA's funding was being discussed, and CGA members have done the same for AWS. Members of AWS have also helped paint the cube in order to advertise CGA events and have even camped out in front of the cube to protect it from vandalism.

The past cooperation between the two groups may be partially attributed to the fact that in past years a greater number

of women were in CGA than at present. Some of these women were also members of AWS. Even more familiarity was fostered when the CGA office was located in Suite D of the Carolina Union, next door to the AWS office.

Several reasons have been proposed for the lack of women in CGA. Some people feel that AWS is more sensitive to the concerns of lesbians than is CGA. Others have said that many women see CGA as a group of friends. This causes a problem since many lesbians do not usually associate with gay men. Unfortunately it seems that CGA is in a vicious cycle: the organization needs women but it is necessary to have them in order to plan effective programming for lesbians.

It seems that AWS and CGA are once again recognizing the fact that they must work together. Some people in CGA are interested in working closely with AWS and are concerned with the lack of lesbians in CGA. One concrete step forward was a dance held on Nov. 5, which was attended by approximately 75 people. Sponsored by both CGA and AWS, it was hopefully the first move towards a better understanding and cooperation between the two groups.

-Robert

Comment

Harassment in the Dorm — "The Southern Part of Heaven"?

I recently sat in the CGA office talking to a local newspaper reporter who returned time and again to his assertion that it's easy to be gay in Chapel Hill. Perhaps there are some gay folk who indeed find this to be the "southern part of heaven" and that the chic liberal village provides just the amenities they need.

But for others the experience is far from pleasant. One instance of a freshman acquaintance comes to mind. He arrived here with the expectations of being part of an open-minded student body and an active gay group.

During his first few weeks here, however, his dorm room was trashed twice, malicious and threatening notes for the "hall fag" were left on his door, and other dorm residents yelled epithets and taunts at him while they hid around the corner.

He says the continual fear and stress from the numerous incidents quickly undermined his studies. He describes the trashing of his belongings as "mental rape." His grades suffered from his inability to study.

I can think of laudable efforts he could have made to resolve the situation, such as working with his RA to find the culprit(s). Still I empathize

with his simply leaving the situation by moving off campus.

Similar problems of harassment continue in this southern part of heaven, however, and they need to be dealt with directly. Wayne Kuncel, who recently became director of University Housing, agrees and says that he views such harassment "as a violation of rights" and a breach "of the rules of civility." He hopes any future cases will be brought to him before final moves are made so the issues can be dealt with honestly and in a manner supportive of the gay resident.

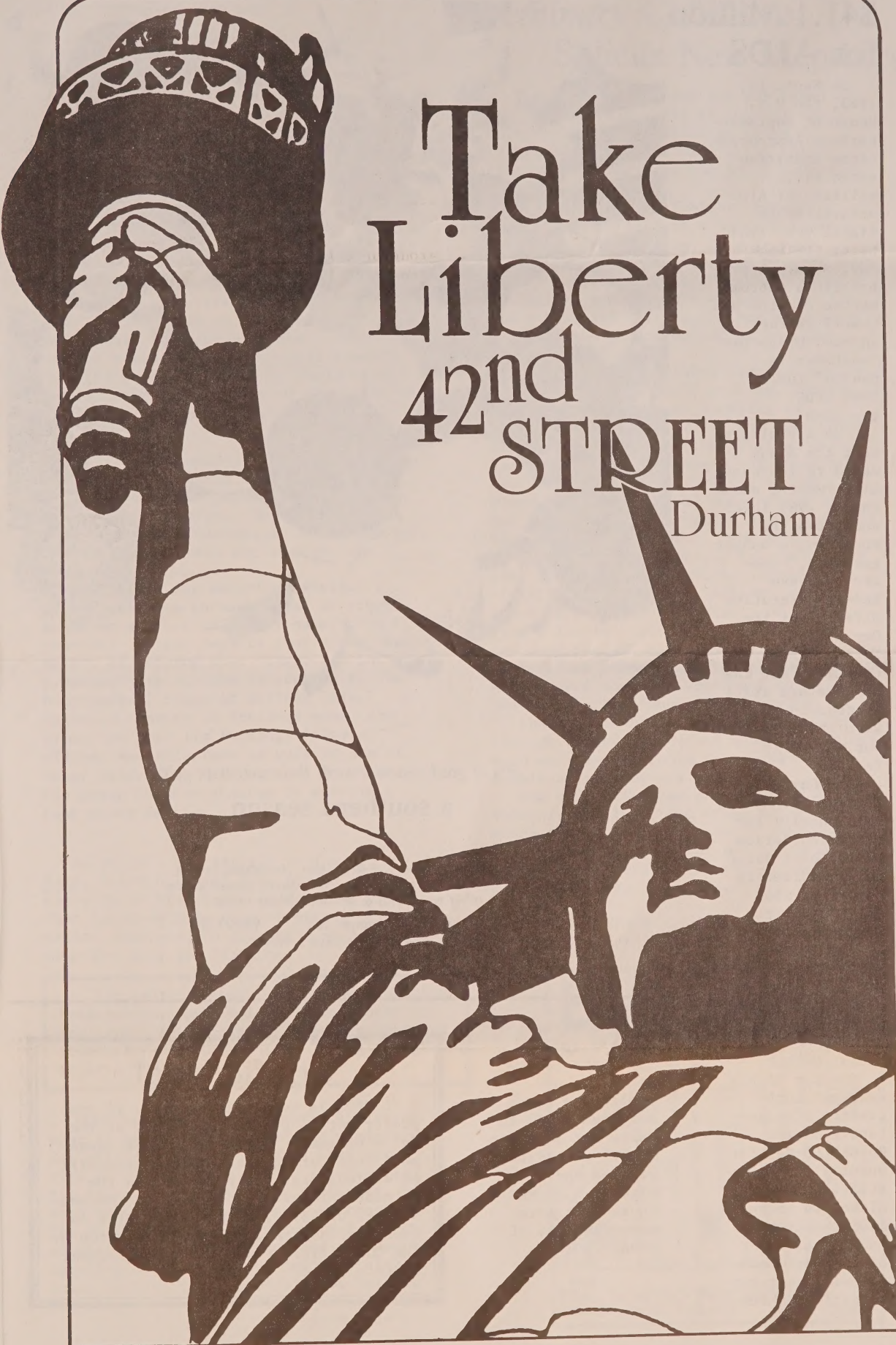
Similar open-mindedness and sensitive, sensible attitudes need to be present on the RA level too. This year their pre-service training did not include a section on gay residents concerns. It should.

If "rules of civility" are to apply and "harmony to prevail," then RAs need to be aware that some of their residents are gay, and they should be educated to deal sensitively with the conflicts that may arise. Prejudice will not be eliminated with a one-shot pre-service training session, but it is necessary that we--CGA, the RHA, and University Housing--set a standard for behavior based not on ignorance and fear but on the affirmation of human dignity.

-Lee Mullis

Take Liberty

42nd
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Durham



\$41.1 Million for AIDS

On Sept. 15, 1983, the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee voted \$41.1 million for AIDS activities in fiscal year 1983. Later the same day, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Chairperson Lowell Weicker agreed to approve "whatever is needed" for FY 1984 AIDS research.

"We are pleased that the House voted to increase AIDS funding above the FY 1983 level and above the President's budget requests," commented Steve Endean, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL). "But the amounts are still inadequate to cope with the epidemic our nation is facing."

The Gay Rights National Lobby had been pushing for an appropriation of at least \$42.6 million directly for AIDS, \$30 million for the Public Health Emergency Fund, and \$1.5 million for psychological research on AIDS by the National Institute of Mental Health.

The Gay Rights National Lobby credits Representative Edward Roybal (D-CA) for pushing the Appropriations Committee to increase AIDS research funding and to adopt recommendations. The recommendations which



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the Committee adopted include a directive to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to carry out a public health education program and a directive to HHS to request more money in 1984 if needed.

Confidential

LAMBDA is available by mail, if you prefer not to pick up your copy at the Union or campus libraries. Each issue published during the academic year will be mailed, discreetly folded and the outside unlabeled, at a cost to the subscriber of \$3.00. Our mailing list is kept confidential. To subscribe, drop by the CGA office or see the advertisement in this issue.

(DGLA, continued from page 1)

as the Duke Gay and Lesbian Alliance in 1982. They submitted their charter to ASDU in July 1983 to obtain approval for the current academic year.

According to DGLA president Robert Bright, the student legislature approved the charter in October, but in a surprise move ASDU president Bill Bruton vetoed approval after being advised by ASDU lawyer Stewart Sessoms that North Carolina law prohibits encouragement of homosexual activity.

According to Bright, Bruton is amenable to changing the contested clause and the group's purpose to an "information role rather than a promotional one." Duke's student newspaper The Chronicle reports that the proposed provision would read "socializing for purposes of education and information exchange" (Oct. 12, 1983).

Complicating matters, Bright says he has recently realized that the charter being contested is actually the old Duke Gay Alliance charter. The more recent DGLA charter was mistakenly not submitted. The new charter does not include the contested clause.

DGLA is as yet undecided whether to pursue the veto through legal or other means or whether to simply submit the DGLA charter. Bright reports that the group is small, explaining that "there's a lot of pressure here at Duke to conform to the heterosexual image of college life." Unless a charter is obtained soon, the group can lose its funding, library, office, and telephone as well as use of other University facilities. He doubts the group has the stamina to sustain a long court battle.

In an Oct. 25, article in The Front Page, Raleigh lawyer John Boddie says there is nothing in North Carolina law that requires Duke to prohibit an organization chartered to promote a social setting for gays and lesbians.

"The crime against nature law prohibits both heterosexual and homosexual oral or anal sex," Boddie said. "The law does not prohibit gays and lesbians from getting together for social purposes."

DGLA president Bright says this argument is being presented to the student legislature, and he believes they will vote to override the veto. If, however, the group does not receive a charter, he says they will take the case to court. The North Carolina Human Rights Fund has promised legal assistance, and the North Carolina Civil Liberties Union is also investigating their provision of help in the case.

-Lee Mullis

Feminary Collective Solicits New Members

The collective which has published Feminary for six years is looking for a multi-cultural/racial/class group of lesbians to continue publishing this "feminist journal for the South emphasizing lesbian visions."

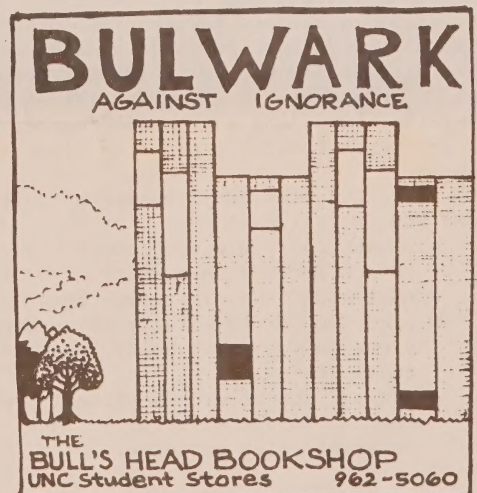
Based in Durham, Feminary began in Chapel Hill in 1969 as a women's liberation newsletter and has gone through several evolutions before its present book format published twice a year. Present collective members have worked on it for six years, and several of them have moved to new homes or are moving on to other projects.

Feminary has published fiction, poetry, drama, memoirs, journal entries, letters and graphics in issues focusing on southern women's herstory, southern humor and disobedience. In the original collective statement, members said that they "as southerners, as lesbians, and as women...need to explore with others how our lives fit into a region about which we have great ambivalence." The publishers have not skirted political issues and say they aim for the journal to increase the visibility of southern lesbians and to serve as a political analysis of the South from a lesbian perspective. They have explored racial, class and religious differences among southern lesbians and have worked to build upon--and to celebrate--that community diversity.

The journal has a national circulation through subscriptions and bookstore sales. Much of the readership is southern--or displaced southerners.

The collective has grant money, a subscription list, and other materials which they hope to pass on to publishers of the next issue. They want to hear from people interested in continuing the magazine by Jan. 21, 1984.

Feminary
P.O. Box 11648
Durham, NC 27703



Editorial

Does God Hate Queers?

A few loyal readers of this newsletter, otherwise quite loyal, have complained again that LAMBDA is religious and that student funds are consequently being used to support religious endeavors. They continue with the threat of bringing this opinion to the attention of student government.

We have tolerated a year of these comments, and it's past time to respond. Two points, largely self-evident, must be made. First, we are reporting on how religious organizations treat gays; we're not proselytizing. The staff has the freedom and responsibility to report on different aspects of society that affect homosexual persons. We do not advocate any religion. Personally, I'm more Taoist than Protestant but I can still read articles such as last issue's interview with a Baptist minister and find encouragement in his words, instead of grimacing because rigor mortis has stiffened my brain.

Second, to their credit, atheists do not normally persecute homosexuals. Main-line religions normally do: one cannot marry officially, be a member if one is "out," or even be welcomed into

their community.

Perhaps it's not fair that persecution makes the news more often than tolerance. Most of our readers grew up in main-line religions; religious persecution is in their bones, and they worship on Saturday nights instead of Sunday mornings. If the main-line churches turn around, we'll report it. If the atheists start vocally proselytizing or persecuting us, we'll tell you about it.

Responses are welcome.

-Bill

P.S. Exceptions to main-line church persecution in Chapel Hill must be mentioned. The Chapel of the Cross has always supported CGA and LAMBDA, and has welcomed homosexual people into their community. Rev. Seymour of Binkley Baptist Church must be commended for asserting in the pulpit that homosexuals should be viewed as neighbors and part of the Christian community. And the Newman Catholic Student Center, the Hillel Foundation, the Community Church, and the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church have allowed CGA use of their facilities when others turned us away.

SEEDS for Change

A new progressive campus party is growing on the UNC-CH campus and has as one of its major goals the advancement of gay and lesbian rights.

Students Effectively Establishing a Democratic System (SEEDS) currently consists of about 20 students who are concerned about human rights and the environment. They are determined to combat apathy and an unresponsive student government. They pride themselves on the democratic framework of their group, which they hope will bridge the gap between student government and national and international issues.

SEEDS is already represented on the Campus Governing Council. Carol B. Solow and Bill Barlow won seats in Districts 2 and 4, respectively, in a special election held Oct. 25. And current CGC member Allan Rosen (Dist. 7) plans to join SEEDS.

The SEEDS platform proposed by Solow and Barlow includes:

- promotion of a water conservation policy for the University
- making UNC a Nuclear Free Zone
- pressing for University divestment of stock in companies doing business in South Africa
- adding "sexual or affectional preference" to all University non-discrimination policies.

SEEDS is also interested in working on other issues, including minority and women's rights, rights for handicapped, and U.S. involvement in El Salvador. Educating the public and opening discussion about these and other issues are primary goals of the party. It is also committed to building a coalition of many campus groups.

Several CGA members are taking an active role in SEEDS and would be interested in input from other gay men and lesbians. For more information, call Marc at 929-5081.



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Calendar

RECURRING EVENTS:

- Chapel Hill Lesbian Potluck: third Saturday of each month at 6:30pm. Call 929-2546 for info.
- Dignity--Triangle: Gay Catholics and their friends meet every Sunday evening at 7. Call 829-9077 for details.
- Gay AA: meets every Saturday at 8pm at MCC, corner of Wade Avenue and Dixie Trail, Raleigh.
- Gay Men's Folk Dancing: meets every other Friday at the Ark on Duke University's East Campus. Call Jeff or David at 929-9769 (CH) or Carl or Alan at 569-4511 (Durham).
- Gay Support Group: meets every Tuesday night in Minister's Study of the Unitarian Church, 3313 Wade Avenue, Raleigh. Call 834-3302 for details.
- Metropolitan Community Church: Worship services each Sunday in church at corner of Wade Avenue and Dixie Trail, Raleigh, 3:00pm.
Bible Study--Tuesdays, 7:30pm
Prayer and Praise--Wednesdays, 7:15pm
Volleyball--Wednesdays, 8pm, at Jaycee Park on Wade Avenue.
Non-religious Rap Time--Thurs., 8pm
- Parents of Gays: meets third Thursday of each month at Unitarian Church, 3313 Wade Avenue, Raleigh, 7:30pm. Call 834-3302 for details.
- Over Thirties Potluck for Lesbian/Gay Women: last Saturday of each month. Call 477-5726 (Durham) or 933-0036 (CH)
- Raleigh NOW: meets first Tuesday of each month at Athens Drive High School, Room 142. Call Joy Osborne at 832-3660 for info.
- Triangle Area Gay Scientists: meets second Saturday of each month. Call Dan at 929-4997 for info.
- Women's Choir: meets every Sunday at 4:30pm. Call Barb at 489-1358 for information.
- Women for Sobriety: meets every Tuesday at Presbyterian Student Center, Henderson Street, Chapel Hill. Call 929-0471 for more information.

November

- 2-16 Orange County Women's Ctr is sponsoring a mini-course entitled "Black Women Writers: Past and Present." Tuesdays at 7:30pm. Call 968-4646 for details.

Coors "May Be Hazardous to Your Health"

The Joseph Coors Brewing Company has been waging an aggressive marketing campaign in North Carolina in recent months. Previously available only "west of the Rockies," Coors has had a built-in mystique attached to it all along. Now widely available and heavily promoted, it's the chic and fashionable brew of the year. Feminists, lesbians, gay men, minorities, in fact, any progressive or even vaguely "humanistic" people should realize that each penny we spend on this stuff contributes to our own oppression.

Joseph Coors is the largest single contributor to the far right, the "financial angel" of the ultraconservatives. This union-busting beer magnate founded and finances the highly influential Heritage Foundation, the "think tank" from which Reagan has drawn both ideas and advisors. Among the goals of the Heritage Foundation is the dismantling of affirmative action and civil rights legislation for women, minorities, and the disabled. Cofounder Paul Weyrich also coordinates a national network of anti-abortion, anti-ERA, and anti-gay-rights groups. This is the type of activity bankrolled by Coors, financed by the beer we drink.

-reprinted from THE NEWSLETTER,
Triangle Area Lesbian Feminists

Post Office Crunch: We Need Your Help

Perhaps you noticed a different return address on our envelope this time. We are in the midst of changing our mailing procedures. Not voluntarily, mind you. The US Postal Service will no longer allow us to use the University's non-profit, bulk-mail permit at a rate of 5.2¢ per piece. A friend of Lambda volunteered to mail this issue for us.

We must now apply for our own bulk mail permit. Needless to say, it is not free. The application fee is \$40, and we must also pay an annual usage fee of \$40, plus 11¢ postage per piece.

Since we cannot use our student government funds to subsidize our mail subscribers, we need some generous contributors to come forth.

If you can write a check to cover part--or all--of our \$40 application fee or the \$40 annual fee, please step forward. Write the check to Lambda/CGA and earmark it for "postal permit."

LAMBDA STAFF

Editor: Bill
Production: Lee Mullis
Copy: Marc, Mark, Ron, Robert, Lee, Bill
Advertising: Robert and Jerry

10

- 7 Women's Health Counseling Service program "Issues in Women's Health: Hypertension." Call Brenda Edwards at 968-4646.
- 8 Triangle Area Lesbian Feminists meeting of "Relationship Enhancement," a six-session discussion. 7pm. Call 968-4646 for details.
- 9 "An evenng of Feminist Theory: Marxist Feminism," with Sandy Morgan. Sponsored by Association for Women Students. 7pm in Carolina Union.
- 9 Gay & Lesbian Student Association (UNC-G) program, "Women, Power, and Motion," cosponsored with UNC-G Assoc. for Women Students. McIver Lounge, Elliot Univ. Ctr., 7pm.
- 10 Sadie Hughsley, vice president of WILPF, speaks on feminism and the peace movement. 7pm. Sponsored by AWS.
- 11 & 12 Composer, pianist, vocalist Debbie Fier, in concern with Jean Fineberg. Salaam Cultural Center, 1101 West Chapel Hill St., Durham. 8pm. Tickets \$6.50. Sponsored by Ladyslipper Music. Call 683-1570.
- 13 & Dec. 11 UNC-G Gay and Lesbian Student Association meeting. Elliot Univ. Ctr., 8pm
- 14 CGA meeting. 7:30pm, Carolina Union.
- 15 Campus Y focuses on minority rights, as part of Human Rights Week. -booth in the Pit, noontime
- "Laws Affecting the Homosexual," with Dottie Bernholz, 2pm, Carolina Union
- "AIDS and the Struggle for Gay Civil Rights," with David Jolly, 5:30pm, Carolina Uion.
- 15 Speech by Crystal Lee Sutton, the original Norma Rae. Sponsored by AWS.
- 15 & 22 Women's Health Counseling Service sponsors a series on "Middle Age: A Woman's Issue"
- 15th: "Health Aging"
- 22nd: "Growth and Changes during the Middle Years"
- Call 968-4646 for details.
- 16 "An Evening of Feminist Theory: Radical Feminist" with Debbie Swanner of Radical Feminist Organizing Committee. 7pm, Carolina Union. Sponsored by AWS.

- 16 "Women and the Power of Advertising" film and discussion, UNC-G AWS. 4pm, McIver Lounge, Elliot Univ. Ctr
- 17 Campus Y Human Rights Week focuses on "Political Rights and Expressions". -Booth in pit. -Lecture: "A Gay Spiritual View of Politics" by Stuart Norman.
- 18 & 19 "Common Differences: Changing the Ways We Think about Women's Experiences and the Humanities." NC Central University. \$1 students and unemployed; \$5 for others. Sponsored by Triangle Area Lesbian Feminists. Call Beverly Jones at 683-6271 or Sandi Morgan 684-5683.
- 20 Gay & Lesbian Student Assoc., UNC-G, dinner at Presbyterian House. \$2. Call 379-5130 for details.
- 21 Film "Rape Culture," 7:30 pm, Carolina Union. Sponsored by AWS.
- 30 Gay & Lesbian Student Assoc., UNC-G, program entitled "Women and the Power of Ladies Magazines" with UNC-G Assoc. for Women Students. McIver Lounge, Elliot Univ. Ctr., 4pm.

December

- 3 Symposium on Women and North Carolina Law, sponsored by Chapel Hill Women's Ctr. Call 968-4646 for details.

COME VISIT US

The CGA office is Room 207B Carolina Union
Hours: MWF 11:15am to 1pm
MWTh 4-8pm
Phone: 962-4401

Queers, Quips & Quotes

"It's a fact that 'our children' do not need to be 'saved' from homosexuals. To use 'God,' the 'American Flag' and the emotionally charged cry to 'Save Our Children' in a effort to deny employment, housing and public accommodations to a whole segment of our population because of their personal sexual preference is outrageous!"

-Abigail "Dear Abby" Van Buren

"I believe gay people should have civil rights equal to any other people under the Constitution. . . . You know, we are all God's children."

-Coretta Scott King

The Book Corner

A Drab Room, the Hollows of a Neck, Dancing Boys

The Penguin Book of Homosexual Verse,
edited by Stephen Coote, Penguin, 1983,
410 pp. \$6.95.

But first, what's here and why these? "A gay poem is one that either deals with explicitly gay matters or describes an intense and loving relationship between two people of the same gender." This statement, buried near the end of Coote's excellent introduction to the anthology, defines the nature and part of the scope of this gathering.

Three hundred and forty-seven pages of poems by approximately 180 poets, approximately 25 of whom are women (half of them from the 20th Century). The poems span ?1050 B.C. to the 1970s, come primarily from the Western tradition, and are all given in English. Included are poets you'd expect (Sappho, Plato, Catallus, Michelangelo, Shakespeare, Whitman, Verlaine, Stein, Isherwood, Cavafy), those that might surprise you (Goethe, Tennyson, Dickinson, A.E. Housman, Lorca, Pasolini), and many you'll not have known (Woodley, Puttkamer, Seward, Heywood, etc.).

Two quibbles: first, the only place to locate a poem's source is a laborious three pages of Acknowledgements at the front. This is no minor inconvenience, for if the book fulfills one of its purposes (to get you so interested in a poet that you want more), you'll have to scrounge about through the acknowledgements. Second, the majority of poets are represented with a single poem. Hopefully the reader will not assume this one is representative; as Coote states, "I have selected what I found most interesting, most pleasing."

Quibbles aside, a thousand jewels reside in the collection and only a few chunks of fool's gold. The poems span a tremendous range of feelings from bathroom graffiti humor (from "25 Limericks": "When Arthur was homeless and broke,/He would suck off his friends for a coke./The suckees would mutter:/ 'Please bring some drawn butter-/We're going to have Artie choke,'" --or -- "Two dykes went their separate routes:/Said one, 'I just don't give two hoots./No common tie linked us/Except cunnilinctus,/And a penchant for Brooks Brothers Suits.'") to politically-natured poems (from Barber's "Explanation": "I will not stand in the drab beige men's room/ like a fern watered with urine,/and wait for penises. I'm sorry./Morality will just have to change//I speak directly to the sons of/ your officials, under the moon,/with the professors listening." -- or from Grahn's "A History of Lesbianism": "How they went out of the world,/the women-loving-women/went out one by one/having withstood greater and lesser/trials, and much hated/from other people, they went out/one by one, each

having tried/in her own way to overthrow/ the rule of men over women,/they tried it one by one/and hundred by hundred,/until each came in her own way/to the end of her life/and died:/ The subject of lesbianism/ is very ordinary; it's the question/of male domination that makes everybody/-angry"), from frankly erotic poems (R.M. Brown's "Dancing the Shout to the True Gospel": "I follow the scent of a woman/Melon heavy/Ripe with joy/Inspiring me/To rip great holes in the night/So the sun blasts through. /And this is all I shall ever know/Her breath/ Filling the hollows of my neck/A luxury diminishing death" -- or Ortleb's "Some Boys": "When some boys/offer to dance/you can see how innocently/their cocks hang in their pants./Pendulously, as they say,/ connoting/ horses, barns, liquor/hay./Some boys open up their shirts/and the beauty almost hurts./") to a metaphysical appreciation of love (as in the wonderful Katherine Philip's "To my Excellent Friend Lucasia": "No Bridegroom's nor Crown-conqueror's mirth/To mine compared be:/ They have but pieces of this Earth,/I've all the World in thee.//Then let our Flames still light and shine,/And no false fear controul,/As innocent as our Design,/ Immortal as our Soul" -- or from Michelangelo's "To Tommaso de'Cavalieri": "From thy fair face I learn, O my loved Lord,/that which no mortal tongue can rightly say;/the soul, imprisoned in her house of clay,/ holpen by thee to God hath often soared.") to a sentimental ease (as in Mathilda Betham-Edward's "A Valentine": "What shall I send my sweet today,/when all the woods attune in love?/And I would show the lark and dove,/That I can love as well as they" -- or F.S. Woodley's "The Beautiful": "I love this boy, not for his beauty only,/ But just because my life that was so lonely/Knows in his presence some strange healing power,/ An unfamiliar peace--as if each hour/should pause a little in its swift-winged flight/And breathe a benediction.")

"... a record, a history of the different ways in which homosexual people have been seen and have seen themselves."
-Coote

Coote wants the book to be read for more than pleasure: "I would like to think of it also as a record, a history of the different ways in which homosexual people have been seen and have seen themselves. Only if we know something about the past is there a chance we can do something about the future." Historian's plea (see HOMOSEXUAL VERSE on page 12)

12
(HOMOSEXUAL VERSE, continued from page 11)
aside, whether you love poetry or left it
in one adolescence or another, this
anthology is for everyone. Reading the
poems and touching the experiences of so
many others is similar to the exhilaration
of going to the bar the first time and
seeing, amid one's fear, so many people
just like me. Most of us don't share the
poets' eloquence, but we know their mean-
ings. We connect with a poetic tradition
that excites, pleases, arouses, and
touches, a touch both humanizing and
fulfilling.

-Bill

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆ NOVEMBER 14
☆ 7:30
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☆ "ELECTIONS AND
☆ CHANGES IN OUR
☆ CONSTITUTION"
☆ - CAROLINA UNION -
☆

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